

Message Text

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61

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 VO-03 SCA-01 CIAE-00 FBIE-00 INSE-00

NSAE-00 L-03 CPR-02 IO-14 DRC-01 /050 W

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R 061641Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8530

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD BY POUCH

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CVIS CGEN UR

SUBJECT: VISA RECIPROCITY: ALTERNATIVE PORTS OF ENTRY

FOR EUR/SOV AND SCA/CO

REF: (A) STATE 73889; (B) MOSCOW 4621; (C) MOSCOW OMV DATED
4-15/74; (D) STATE 61898

1. SUMMARY: THIS CABLE CONCERNS THE CONTINUING EFFORT TO OBTAIN
RECIPROCAL INCREASE IN NUMBER OF ALTERNATIVE PORTS OF ENTRY IN
US, AND ENTRY-EXIT PORTS IN USSR, ON CERTAIN CATEGORIES OF DIPLOMATIC
AND OFFICIAL NONIMMIGRANT VISAS. END SUMMARY.

2. RE PARA 1 REF B, MFA SENT NOTE APRIL 9 STATING ITS COUNTER-
OFFER OF MOSCOW-LENINGRAD FOR NEW YORK-DULLES. TEXT OF NOTE
CONVEYED TO DEPARTMENT UNDER REF C. DEPT WILL NOTE THAT LANGUAGE
OF SOVIET NOTE ENCOMPASSES "OTHER REPRESENTATIVE OFFICES,"
I.E., PRESUMABLY KAMA COMMISSION, ETC. AS WELL AS EMBASSY AND
CONGEN. MFA NOTE ALSO SEEMS TO NARROW NEW YORK AND LENINGRAD
TO AIRPORTS, THEREBY EXCLUDING BY IMPLICATION ARRIVAL BY SEA.

3. RE PARA 3 REF A, SOVIETS PERMIT OFFICIAL AMERICAN PERSONNEL
IN USSR TO DEPART ONLY FROM THOSE APPROVED PORTS FOR ENTRY-
EXIT WHICH ARE INSCRIBED ON THE VISA, WHICH IS NOT NECESSARILY
SAME PORT AS THAT INDIVIDUAL ENTERED. FOR EXAMPLE, OFFICIAL
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TRAVELLERS OFTEN ENTER AT MOSCOW AND LEAVE AT VYBORG, ETC.

4. ALSO WITH REFERENCE TO PARA 3 REF A, WE DOUBT ANY EFFORT TO EXACT CONCESSIONS FROM SOVIETS THROUGH TACIT EXIT CONTROLS ON SOVEMBASSY WOULD BE FRUITFUL. OUR POSITION HERE HAS ALWAYS BEEN THAT U.S. HAS NO SUCH EXIT CONTROLS AND SOVIETS SHOULD RECIPROCATATE THROUGH EITHER LOOSENING THEIR EXIT CONTROLS OR GRANTING ADDITIONAL ENTRY-EXIT POINTS TO COMPENSATE FOR IMBALANCE CAUSED BY SOVIET EXIT VISA REQUIREMENT.

5. IN RESPONSE TO MFA'S APRIL 9 NOTE TO EMBASSY AND WITH REFERENCE TO SOVIET EMBASSY'S NOTE NO. 32 OF MARCH 15, 1974 TO DEPT, WE PROPOSE TO REAPPROACH MFA SAYING THAT, WITH REGARD TO CATEGORIES OF VISAS SPECIFIED IN AMEMBASSY NOTE NO. 412, WE WILL ACCEPT ROUTINE INSCRIPTION IN VISAS OF MOSCOW-LENINGRAD (OR UPON SPECIFIC REQUEST ON BEHALF OF TRAVELLER ANY ALTERNATIVE TWO PORTS FROM SOVIET APPROED LIST OF ENTRY-EXIT POINTS) IN EXCHANGE FOR ROUTINE GRANTING OF NEW YORK-DULLES (OR UPON SPECIFIC REQUEST ANY TWO FROM OUR APPROVED LIST OF ENTRY POINTS) PROVIDED SOVIET GOVERNMENT WILL WAIVE EXIT VISA REQUIREMENT FOR TRAVELLERS WITH U.S. DIPLOMATIC AND OFFICIAL PASSPORTS. IF SOVIET GOVERNMENT DOES NOT WISH TO WAIVE EXIT VISA REQUIREMENTS FOR THOSE TRAVLLERS, WE WISH ROUTINE GRANTING OF MOSCOW-LENINGRAD-VYBORG (OR ANY THREE AT TRAVELLER'S CHOICE FROM APPROVED LIST) IN EXCHANGE FOR NEW YORK-DULLES (OR ANY TWO AT TRAVELLER'S CHOICE FROM APPROVED U.S. LIST). COMMENT: WE WOULD OF COURSE BE ASTOUNDED IF SOVIETS AGREED TO WAIVE EXIT VISA REQUIREMENTS FOR ANYONE, BUT BELIEVE SUCH A PROPOSAL MAY BE GOOD TACTIC AT THIS POINT IN EFFORT TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO CONSIDER 3 FOR 2 RATIO OF MOSCOW-LENINGRAD-VYBORG FOR NEW YORK-DULLES, AND THEREBY INCREASE ALTERNATIVE PORTS FOR AMEMBASSY AND AMCONGEN PERSONNEL FROM 2 TO 3.

6. REF PARA 1 ABOVE, BEFORE DECISION ON WHETHER TO INCLUDE "OTHER REPRESENTATIVE OFFICES" PER MFA NOTE WE WOULD WISH CLARIFICATION OF WHAT THAT ENCOMPASSES, AND WHETHER U.S. BUSINESSMEN MIGHT RECEIVE COMPARABLE TREATMENT ALONG LINES PARA 3 REF D. WE WOULD POINT OUT THAT U.S. PROPOSAL OFFERS NEW YORK AS ENCOMPASSING AIRPORT AND SHIP ARRIVAL, AND SUGGEST LENINGRAD SHOULD ALSO.

7. UNLESS DEPT INSTRUCTS US OTHERWISE WE WILL MAKE APPROACH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO MFA PER PARAS 5 AND 6 ABOVE. DEPT MIGHT WISH TO MAKE PARALLEL APPROACH TO SOVEMBASSY, WHICH MAY BE MORE IMMEDIATELY INTERESTED IN ALTERNATIVE PORTS OF ENTRY THAN MFA.
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